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Security Council

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Letter dated 26 July 2006 from the Permanent Representative of Georgia to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to transmit a copy of the statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia of 25 July 2006 on developments in the Kodori Gorge (see annex).

I should be grateful if the present letter and its annex would be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Revaz **Adamia**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

06-44626 (E) 260706

Annex to the letter dated 26 July 2006 from the Permanent Representative of Georgia to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

Statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to Georgia on developments in the Kodori Gorge

Given the recent developments in the Kodori Gorge, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia underlines that the Georgian authorities are obliged to protect the interests of the population of the Kodori Gorge, ensuring their security and normal living conditions.

The Georgian authorities categorically rule out any kind of military operation on the territory of the Kodori Gorge and urge the population, distracted from the right path, to obey the law. In cases of disobedience, the Georgian authorities will exercise their legitimate right to carry out anti-criminal police operations similar to those targeted against organized crime in Kakheti, Imereti, Samegrelo and Svaneti.

The Georgian authorities also categorically rule out the extension of police operations to the territory controlled by the de facto Abkhazian authorities.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs is holding consultations with the United Nations, international organizations and other parties concerned on the developments in the Kodori Gorge.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs hopes that the world community and all parties concerned will approach with understanding the measures taken by the Georgian authorities in order to restore the rule of law in the Kodori Gorge.

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Letter dated 26 July 2006 from the Permanent Representative of Georgia to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to transmit a copy of the statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia of 26 July 2006 on ongoing developments in the Kodori Gorge (see annex).

I should be grateful if the present letter and its annex would be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Revaz **Adamia**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

06-44638 (E) 260706

Annex to the letter dated 26 July 2006 from the Permanent Representative of Georgia to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

Statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia on ongoing developments in the Kodori Gorge

In connection with the recent developments in the Kodori Gorge, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia states that sub-units of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Georgia are presently engaged in a police operation against organized crime, specifically against rebel groups of criminals.

The anti-criminal operation is taking place in full compliance with Georgian laws and international commitments undertaken by Georgia.

The Ministry deems it necessary to state that Georgia is not in violation of the Agreement on a Ceasefire and Separation of Forces, signed on 14 May 1994. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs would like to clarify that the Agreement does not restrict the presence of police forces in the Kodori Gorge and the implementation of measures in that part of Georgia with a view to maintaining order.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs reaffirms that the police operation does not extend to the territory controlled by the Abkhazian de facto authorities. At the same time, special representatives keep in contact with the Abkhazian de facto authorities to bring clarity to the actual state of affairs.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs continues to hold consultations with representatives of the neighbouring countries, the United Nations, international organizations and other sides concerned about the existing situation in the Kodori Gorge.